

DEP



citizens' bulletin

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1974 Environmental Legislation

Citizen input into environmental lawmaking could be a little more difficult this year than last. The 1974 General Assembly convenes in short session (from February to April instead of January to May as it did last year) and only finance and committee raised bills are to be considered. In view of this, the Environmental Committee will provide a special opportunity for citizens to discuss bills and proposed legislation to be considered and to express their opinions directly to Committee members.

November 30, from 9:30 through the afternoon, the Environmental Committee will conduct an all day symposium on upcoming environmental legislation. During the morning session, held in the Hall of the House, the interim subcommittees of the Environment Committee will report their proposals for the 1974 session, and representatives from DEP will present the department's legislative program.

The morning session will be followed by a reception in the Judiciary Room for DEP Commissioner Douglas Costle.

The afternoon session will consist of a number of smaller workshop discussions conducted by the subcommittee chairmen, giving citizens opportunity to comment on legislative proposals and submit recommendations for other legislation.

While plans for legislation are not by any means finalized, 11 interim subcommittees of the Environment Committee are exploring various subjects, including noise, returnable bottles and cans, litter, state aid for pollution abatement facilities, the energy crisis, coastal zone management, and various fish and game, and domestic animal matters.

DEP has conducted public hearings on phosphate detergents and must report findings and recommendations for legislation to the General Assembly by February 15, 1974. Plans for other legislation are not yet formalized.

Any person interested in participating in the symposium may write to the Environment Committee, Room 418, State Capitol, Hartford, 06115 for further information, or call Linda Emmons, Environment Committee Secretary, on Thursdays at 566-5083.

Brief summaries of 1973 environmental legislation were reprinted in DEP's Environmental Bulletin (subscription \$1.00 yearly from Information and Education, DEP, at the address on the masthead) and reprints are available from the Information/Education office.

Also, an index of the laws under which DEP operates will be available soon; due to the extensive printing costs, the text of the laws is not included, but the statute and public act numbers and titles are listed and citizens will be able to find the codified laws easily in the general statutes in every library. Copies of the index available from DEP's Information and Education Office at the address on the masthead.

WATER QUALITY HEARINGS

With the Clean Water Act of 1967, Connecticut adopted water quality standards for all interstate and intrastate waters. Under these standards, all state waters were assigned a water quality designation, in some cases higher than the existing quality of the water, which must be met and maintained. Various sections of the same water bodies were given varying designations, reflecting shore activity, rate of water flow, depth of water and other natural factors.

Connecticut has made great progress in cleaning its waters under the Clean Water Act, and increasingly stringent federal legislation has mandated better water pollution treatment, assuring that the waters flowing into Connecticut from other states become gradually cleaner. (Several of Connecticut's rivers carry water already used by New York, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont or Rhode Island.)

Connecticut now proposes to modify its standards to reflect both the increasingly efficient pollution control technology and the changing activities along the banks of the state's waters.

The public is invited to comment on the proposed amendments at a public hearing November 15 in the Hall of the House, State Capitol, Hartford. The hearing will be convened at 10:00 a.m. and proceed until all present are heard; it will reconvene at 7:00 p.m., giving those who cannot attend during the day a chance to participate. Oral statements will be heard and written statements will be accepted at the hearing and for two weeks thereafter. Copies of the proposed amendments are available upon request from DEP Water Compliance Unit, Room 129, State Office Building, Hartford 06115 (566-3245) and detailed maps may be seen in room 129, and at the hearing.

The proposed amendments set general policy requirements as well as specific stream designations; among these are the policy that waters whose existing quality is better than the established standards on the date of their adoption shall be maintained at their existing high quality, and shall not be lowered unless such a change is justified to the DEP Commissioner. It is also expressed to be the policy of the state to restore surface waters to a quality consistent with protection and propagation of fish, shellfish and wildlife, and use for recreation in and on the water. Also, all sewage treatment plant effluents shall receive disinfection before discharge to a degree specified by the state.

Since the 1972 Federal Water Pollution Control Act requires that state water quality standards be reviewed and modified at least every three years, the standards proposed in the present amendments are the best present estimate of Connecticut's water pollution control program only over the next three year period. Higher standards than those set forth in the present amendments may be expected. They will, however, take more than three years to obtain and will be reflected in future amendments.

While full details may be obtained from the address above, or at the hearing itself, a brief explanation of the various classes of water quality may prove useful for initial orientation. Each general definition quoted below is followed in the standards by technical specifications for such water characteristics as dissolved oxygen, coliform bacteria, PH, allowable temperature increase and other factors.

INLAND WATERS

- Class AA - Existing or proposed water supply impoundments and tributary surface waters.
- Class A - May be suitable for water supply and/or bathing; suitable for all other water uses; character uniformly excellent; may be subject to absolute restrictions on the discharge of pollutants; authorization of new discharges of other than minor cooling and clean water would require revision to Class B which would be considered concurrently with the issuance of a permit at a public hearing.
- Class B - Suitable for bathing, other recreational purposes; agricultural uses, certain industrial processes and cooling; excellent fish and wildlife habitat; good aesthetic value.
- Class C - Suitable for fish and wildlife habitat, recreational boating, and certain industrial processes and cooling; good aesthetic value.
- Class D - Class D waters are considered unacceptable and will be assigned only when a higher quality cannot be obtained in the next three years. Any D classification is an interim one.

COASTAL AND MARINE WATERS

- Class SA - Suitable for all sea water uses including shellfish harvesting for direct human consumption (approved shellfish areas), bathing, and other water contact sports; may be subject to absolute restrictions on the discharge of pollutants; authorization of new discharges other than cooling or clean water may require revision of the Class to Class SB which would be considered concurrently with the issuance of a permit at public hearing.
- Class SB - Suitable for bathing, other recreational purposes, industrial cooling and shellfish harvesting for human consumption after depuration; excellent fish and wildlife habitat; good aesthetic value.
- Class SC - Suitable for fish, shellfish and wildlife habitat; suitable for recreational boating and industrial cooling, good aesthetic value.

WETLAND REGULATIONS

Public hearings have been held on proposed regulations for DEP jurisdiction over inland wetlands. Beginning June 30, 1974, DEP must regulate inland wetlands in those towns which choose not to regulate their own (though they may adopt such regulations at any time, superseding DEP jurisdiction when they do so). The department may step in to regulate a particularly significant wetland after January 1, 1974.

Changes reflecting comments at the public hearing are being made in DEP's proposed regulations; target date for adoption of the revised regulations is early November. The adopted regulations then go to the Attorney General and the Legislative Review Committee which has a 60 day period to review them. The regulations should be in effect in early January.

At present 75 of Connecticut's 169 towns have appointed an inland wetland regulatory agency. 48 of these agencies are conservation commissions, 14 are composite agencies, with representatives from various other agencies or appointed officials, 7 are planning and/or zoning commissions, 3 are conservation and zoning commissions, and one each are the flood and erosion control board, the board of selectmen, and the town council.

Nine towns have adopted their inland wetland regulations: these regulations are on file at the Water and Related Resources Unit of DEP, Room 207 (566-2642). The public is welcome to review them.

IN THE PAST MONTH....

Eckardt C. Beck, Director of DEP's air compliance unit, has become the agency's Deputy Commissioner for Environmental Quality. As such he will supervise the Department's air, water, solid waste, pesticides and radiation programs. Commissioner Costle, in appointing him, acknowledged his effective leadership of the state's air quality program, noting that under Mr. Beck the program had: gotten over \$3 million in federal grants; designed and implemented an Air Quality Plan which was one of nine originally approved by the federal government, and issued more than 300 abatement orders of which less than one half of one percent had to be referred to the courts for non-compliance.

AIR

DEP has granted a request by Northeast Utilities Service Company to purchase and store high sulfur fuel in order to guarantee an adequate supply of electricity this winter. The department will approve the purchase and storage of boiler fuel containing more than .5% sulfur; utility officials had notified the department that previously guaranteed supplies of low sulfur fuel had been cancelled due to the Middle East war.

DEP is requiring that Northeast make a commitment to install pollution control equipment as a condition to burn the high sulfur fuel. The Commissioner asked that Northeast install stack gas cleaning equipment in selected generating facilities. He noted that DEP can't expect Northeast to have stack gas cleaning equipment in place this winter, but if they begin installation of the equipment now, it would assure that in the future, Connecticut will not be faced with the choice between clean air or electricity.

The Commissioner noted that Connecticut currently meets federal health standards for sulfur oxides, and that he would request the utility to do "everything in its power" to obtain and burn low sulfur fuels.

Commissioner Costle said he realized that emission control devices are costly in terms of initial capital expenditure, but that DEP analysis indicated that both capital and operating costs are more than offset by savings from not having to buy premium-priced low sulfur oil and by the health and property benefits provided by clean air. DEP estimates that, based on Northeast Utilities' own figures and national studies, the utility could save as much as \$10 million a year from installation of the emission control equipment, and that the benefits to the citizens of Connecticut from sulfur-free air are between \$30 and \$80 million dollars a year in reduced health and property damage.

Hearings will be held November 9 on Northeast Utilities' request for a variance from specific air pollution regulations: details on the calendar following.

The first of 12 new DEP air monitoring stations was dedicated by Governor Meskill in Stamford October 19. The portable monitoring station will continuously and automatically measure sulfur oxides, carbon monoxide, particulates and photochemical oxidants. The information, plus wind and temperature data, will be transmitted to a central computer in Hartford.

The 12 station system will cost half a million dollars and will be funded by EPA as a model program. The full system should be operational by summer. Five stations, in Hartford, New Haven, Waterbury, Bridgeport and Stamford, will monitor air pollutants in large population centers. Four will measure industrial sources of pollution, in Ansonia, Groton, Norwich, and Torrington. Three, in Danbury, Enfield and Greenwich, will measure background flux conditions caused by air pollution from neighboring states.

As of January 1, 1974, paints containing reactive solvents such as benzene, alcohol, aldehydes and ethers may not be sold in containers larger than one quart. The regulation was adopted 18 months ago, under the Air Quality Implementation Plan, to discourage use of paints containing reactive hydrocarbons. These chemicals escape from paint when it is applied to a surface, and combine with nitrogen oxide in the air to form a photochemical smog. The paint industry has reformulated its products to conform to acceptable levels, and gallon cans of paint which meet environmental standards will be widely available. Los Angeles has enforced a similar regulation for several years and several states have adopted like measures.

WATER

Connecticut is the second state in the nation authorized to issue federal waste-water discharge permits under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) authorized by the 1972 amendments to the Federal Clean Water Act. DEP expects to issue around 1,200 NPDES permits to discharge sources; most of these sources already hold state permits or are complying with abatement orders.

The federal amendments set a 1977 deadline by which all discharges into water must be treated by the best current practicable technology, which will mean that all municipalities must give their sewage at least secondary treatment before discharge into surface waters. Since more than 90% of Connecticut's municipal treatment facilities are already providing secondary treatment, or are constructing facilities to do so, and the state has run a permit system since 1925

for discharges, the state was well prepared to take the lead in the new federal permit system, and should meet without difficulty the federal deadline of 1983 for water of swimmable purity.

DEP has awarded a two-year, \$50,000 grant to the Limnology Department of the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia to study the ecology of Bantam Lake and its watershed and from the study develop a strategy to solve the advanced eutrophication problems of the lake. The contract is a result of 1972 legislation directing the DEP Commissioner to abate the adverse conditions in the lake; the study will begin immediately.

DEP CERTIFICATION

Operators in charge of wastewater treatment plants must receive certification from the Water Compliance Unit of DEP. The department offers a special training course to prepare the operators for licensing; the course includes methods of activated sludge (secondary) treatment, maintenance, laboratory procedures and chemistry, sludge digestion and handling, and plant safety; the course is managed in conjunction with EPA and the U. S. Labor Department. It is given in Groton, Waterbury, Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport, and Greenwich to some 120 invited participants. Graduates will be well equipped to handle the many multi-million dollar secondary sewage plants now being constructed. Further training sessions including laboratory procedures will be scheduled.

Eventually all landfill operators in the state will also have to obtain DEP certification, and the department offered a one day workshop to landfill operators to help them qualify. The courses included discussion of air pollution, water and solid waste regulations, and Occupational Safety and Health Act requirements with relate to landfills. A film entitled Sanitary Landfill - Open Dump Conversion was shown; the course was given in Torrington, Weston, Newington, East Lyme, Brooklyn and Hamden in October. Other sessions will be scheduled.

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Recent Publications Available from DEP's Office of Information and Education

"Connecticut Tackles the Sordid Solids", Explanation of the new state solid waste plan. September 1973, Connecticut Conservation Association Reporter

"Financial Incentives for Pollution Controls", Outline of tax and financial incentives available for businesses for pollution controls. Brochure developed by the Department of Environmental Protection and the Greater Hartford Chamber of Commerce

"How to Report An Oil Spill", Citizen guide to reporting oil and chemical spills; prepared by DEP

"Waterfowl Hunting Regulations and Duck Identification Guide for Connecticut"

Also the legal publications listed on page 1

Other publications of note

"The Campaign for Cleaner Air", Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 494 by Marvin Zeldin. Explains the Clean Air Act - the public's role in implementing and safeguarding it - 35¢ from Public Affairs Committee, 381 Park Avenue South, New York, N. Y. 10016

CALENDAR - public hearings, deadlines for comment, noteworthy dates.

Hearings may be rescheduled, or planned too late for the Bulletin publication date; this does not, therefore pretend to be a complete or official list. It is wise to call and check scheduling before attending a hearing; for details, call 566-4017 or number listed.

- October 20 Publication of Notice of Intent to waive requirement for a public hearing on application to conduct a regulated activity (excavating a 12 inch wide trench, installing pipe, placing compacted sand around pipe and refilling trench with excavated material) on property of Richard W. Woolworth, Jr., Parcel I69, Ecological Unit 66, Subdivision 1, north of Alan Street and West of Cove Street in Stonington. The DEP Commissioner has determined the regulated activity is not likely to have a significant impact on the wetland and publishes his intent to waive public hearing requirement. Such hearing must be held if the Commissioner receives a petition signed by at least 25 persons requesting such a hearing within 10 days after publication of the notice; the Commissioner will consider any comments received within 30 days of publication of the notice.
- November 9
10:00 a.m. Hearing on application by the Connecticut Light and Power Company and the Hartford Electric Light Company, member companies of Northeast Utilities, for a variance from the Administrative Regulations for the Abatement of Air Pollution. Northeast Utilities has requested a variance from the Sections of the Regulations which 1) restrict the discharge of visible air pollutants by stationary sources; 2) restrict the emission of particulate matter by fuel burning equipment; 3) prohibit the use of fuel with a sulfur content in excess of one-half of one percent (0.5%) by weight.

Copies of the variance application, all documents and exhibits submitted for the record by Northeast Utilities, all applicable statutes and regulations are available for public inspection at Northeast Utilities office at 107 Selden Street, Berlin, and at DEP, Room 155, State Office Building, Hartford.

Any person who feels he may be affected by the decision of the hearing may apply for admission as a party or intervenor. Such application shall set forth the manner in which the applicant deems himself affected and must be submitted to the DEP not later than Wednesday, November 7, 1973.

At the hearing, testimony will be taken to determine if the requested variance conforms to and satisfies the standards of Section 19-508-I3 of the Regulations (the section concerns applications for variances). HALL OF THE HOUSE, STATE CAPITOL, HARTFORD.
- November 10 Deadline for comment on application of Town of Norwalk to make a 2,400 foot cut in beach area; windrow and stockpile approximately 1000 to 1500 yards of existing sand above mean high water to be graded in place approximately half tide mark; and grade new sand on top of beach area to approximately mean high water at Calf Pasture and Shady Beach in Long Island Sound in East Norwalk. Further information: 566-5308.
- November 12 Deadline for comments on application of Lewis H. Nash Family, Inc., to construct, install and maintain 24 by 8 feet pile and timber extension to existing pier; relocate existing ramp and 3 floats; add two floats and drive eleven 12-inch butt piles to minimum of 7 feet depth in Long Island Sound on Pratt Island in Darien. For further information: 566-5308.
- November 15
10 a.m. & 7 p.m. Hearing on proposed amendments to water quality standards for the waters of Connecticut. Details on page 1. HALL OF THE HOUSE, STATE CAPITOL, HARTFORD.
- November 15
7:30 p.m. Hearing on application of Deforest W. and Danforth M. Smith to dredge approximately 40,000 cubic yards of material and placing of this plus 5,000 cubic yards within the bounds of wetlands in Ecological Unit 20, Subdivision 1, Parcel 19 on the north side of Rogers Avenue in Milford. Sixty-eight condominium dwelling units, a clubhouse, swimming pool and docks and boat slips will be constructed on the fill and in the tidal and navigable waters. All applications, maps and documents open for public inspection at DEP, Room 201, State Office Building, Hartford. CITY HALL AUDITORIUM, MILFORD.
- November 16 Deadline for comments on application of Essex Island Marina, Inc., for extension of time to construct, install and maintain ramps, piles, piers, mooring piles and floats. Dredging, digging and site work already completed. Further information: 566-5308.
- November 16
10:00 a.m. Hearing on application of Arnold Diamond to discharge 300 gallons per day of treated sanitary sewage to the groundwater in the watershed of Lake Waramaug in Warren. STATE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM I29, HARTFORD.

- November 23 Deadline for comments on application of the Connecticut Light and Power Company to install and maintain two armored submarine cables buried a minimum of 3 feet below the riverbed, 6 feet under the channel, by plowing, except on the easterly side where the cable will be buried in a 3 feet deep trench blasted in a rock ledge; blasted spoil to be stored on barges and used as backfill where suitable or disposed of above mean high water; under the Connecticut River about 5/8 mile upstream of the Haddam-East Haddam Bridge. Further information: 566-5308
- November 26 Deadline for comments on application of the Connecticut Light and Power Company to install and maintain an 8-inch steel gas pipeline at a minimum depth of 15 feet below the existing riverbed under the Housatonic River about 125 feet east of the Route 8 Bridge in Shelton and Derby. Further information: 566-5308.
- November 30 9:30 thru afternoon Environmental Legislation Symposium. Details on page 1. HALL OF THE HOUSE, STATE CAPITOL, HARTFORD.
- December 1 Deadline for comments on application of Hammonasset River Marina to complete work authorized under an expired permit, consisting of constructing, installing and maintaining bulkhead, floats, ramps, mooring piles and a travel lift in the Hammonasset River in Clinton. 200 feet of bulkhead and a travel lift well are to be completed. Further information: 566-5308.

ATTENTION CONSERVATION COMMISSIONS, LAND TRUSTS

December 1 Connecticut Association of Conservation Commissions (CACC) sponsoring a meeting for all conservation 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. commissions, land trusts and interested public. George Simpson of the Farm Bureau will discuss open space preservation and P. A. 490; David Lavine of the Connecticut Inland Wetlands Project will discuss inland wetlands, Daniel P. Brown, Jr., will discuss land gifts, and an overview of conservation programs in Connecticut will be presented. Commissioner Douglas Castle will be the luncheon speaker. Advance registration \$4:50; \$5 at the door, information from CACC, P. O. Box 72, Georgetown, Conn. 06829, Telephone 762-0502, HOLIDAY INN, MERIDEN.

- December 4 11:00 a.m. Hearing on application of Mystic Aquarium, Inc., to discharge 6000 gallons a day of marine animal culture water to the Mystic River estuary and the groundwater in the watershed of Long Island Sound in Stonington. STATE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 129, HARTFORD.
- December 4 10:00 a.m. Application of Hartford Road Realty Co. to discharge 18,000 gallons a day of residential sanitary sewage to the groundwater in the watershed of Meadow Brook in Colchester. STATE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 129, HARTFORD.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DOUGLAS M. COSTLE, COMMISSIONER
STATE OFFICE BUILDING
165 CAPITOL AVENUE
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06115

Telephone numbers for citizen information

the Governor's Information Bureau: 800-842-2220 (Hartford number 566-2750). The 800 number is a toll free line; a DFP representative will answer citizen inquiries on all aspects of the department and its activities.

PARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

6 - All Hartford DEP extensions prefixed with 566

3489 General Information - DEP Information and Education Unit (all aspects of DEP; hunting and boating safety programs.)

5524

4017

5599

4409 Licensing & Revenue (deer permits, lobster licenses)

3540 Natural Resources Center (Natural resources data available for individual towns)

3540 Indian Affairs - Coordinator Brendan Keleher

3556 Legal and Governmental Affairs (legal counsel to the Commissioner)

VISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY - Eckardt C. Beck, Deputy Commissioner

3160 Air Pollution - complaints

3160 - enforcement (orders to polluters, violations)

3223 - enforcement (open burning permits, notices of violation)

3310 - monitoring and detection (pollutant levels, air pollution alerts)

2267 - Legal affairs - air pollution (regulations, variances, hearings, appeals, declaratory rulings, complex source information)

2690 - permits and registrations (permits to construct and operate pollution sources, hazardous materials and noise information (except noise complaints))

3160 Noise complaints

5148 Pesticides

5668 Radiation

3672 Solid Waste

Water Pollution

5903 Northeast Conn. Joseph Ward

3282 Northwest Conn. Robert Smith

5903 Southeast Conn. Ronald Rayner

5760 Southwest Conn. Joseph Kulowiec

3338 Oil and chemical spills (8:30 - 4:30 Mon. - Fri. All other hours - Hartford State Police 566-4240 or local barracks)

VISION OF CONSERVATION & PRESERVATION - Theodore B. Bampton, Deputy Commissioner

2287 Fish and Water Life - Cole Wilde

5348 Forestry - Ed Vandermullen, State Forester

Forest fires - call regional directors listed below as well as local fire department

4040 Forest tax information - for forest land under P.A. 490 (1963)

Shade and ornamental trees - for specific information call Dave Miller at UConn, 486-2840 or the Extension Service at the University 486-3435

Tree planting programs - call regional directors listed below

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DIVISION OF CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION - continued

- 4166 Land acquisition - Joseph Voboril (including gifts of land to state; state and/or federal funds for municipal land acquisition)
3978 Law Enforcement - Fred Pogmore (for enforcement of wildlife & boating laws)
2304 Parks and Recreation - William Miller
2797 Water and Related Resources - Zell Steever
3707 Channel encroachment lines - Don Cundy and Steve Tibbets
5308 Coastal erosion problems - Frank Fogerty
5506 Dams - Victor Galgovski
5308 Dredging permits, structures in navigable waters - Bud Nash
2642 Inland Wetlands - Cynthia Ivey
4147 Tidal Wetlands - Edward Daly
4683 Wildlife - Dennis DeCarli (general wildlife problems, endangered species, migratory birds, hunting areas)

Regional Directors (Supervise Conservation and Preservation programs in their regions)

- | | | | |
|----------|----------|------------------|---|
| 379-0771 | Region 1 | Anthony Cantele | P. O. Box 161
Pleasant Valley 06063 |
| 758-1753 | Region 2 | Martin Cherniske | Judd Hill Road
Middlebury 06762 |
| 295-9523 | Region 3 | John Spencer | RR2, Box 150A
East Hampton 06424 |
| 376-2513 | Region 4 | John Olson | State Forest Nursery RFD 1
Voluntown 06384 |
| 443-0166 | Region 5 | Robert Jones | Harkness Memorial State Park P. O. Box 89
Waterford 06385
(Marine region) |

